

ABSTRACT

The printing apparatus includes a press unit having at least one ink roller and a solvent delivery system. The ink roller has a center print area and, on one end or both ends, a non-print area. The solvent delivery system has an opening 5 through which a suitable tack-reducing solvent for the ink is delivered to the non-print areas of the ink roller. In the printing process, tack-reducing solvent is delivered to the non-print areas of ink rollers of a printing press during operation of the press to keep the rollers free of dried, tacky ink build-up. The process uses a combination of ink and tack-reducing solvent compatible with the ink.